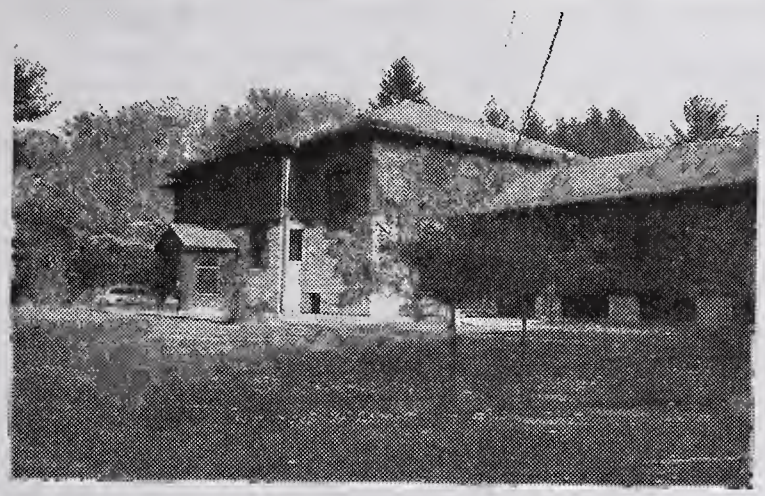
Sheffield TIMES

Community News for Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA, SECOND GENERATION Vol. II, Issue 8 November/December 2002



The Bushnell-Sage Memorial Library in its current location at the renovated Sheffield Center School off Route 7 in the Center of town. The library was located at the Friendly Union starting in the1870s, but soon outgrew the space and moved to the location of the current police station in 1923. It moved to its current location in 1997.

THE BUSHNELL-SAGE LIBRARY: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

Sheffield's public library, located just off Route 7, has been a Sheffield institution for more than 75 years.

The idea of a public library for the town of Sheffield was born in 1859, when seven people, including the Rev. Orville Dewey, noted Unitarian minister, gathered at the home of Richard Ensign and agreed to form "The Sheffield Library Association." Within a year they had 14 members.

Interrupted by the Civil War, they made little progress until 1871. At that time the Sheffield Friendly Union was born, again due to the initiation of Rev. Dewey. Dedicated "to increase good and kindly feelings, and promote intelligence and cheerfulness," the organization rented space over Cyrus French's Store (now Silk's Variety), held weekly educational meetings during the winter, and began to form a library. Mary Dewey, Orville's daughter, noted its collection was small but good, "slowly enlarging, and much used and valued by the members."

But it was not a "free" library. Members were required to pay an initial membership fee and after that an annual assessment. A tax-supported library for Sheffield did not become a reality until 1876. In Town Meeting that year, voters approved an appropriation of $150, to be raised from the dog tax, to establish it.

But early on the idea ran into resistance. Martha Greene, a Library staffer who has written a history of the institution, records how the town twice denied it an appropriation. Residents advanced three arguments: the town was too poor; taxation was "unrighteous" for such a purpose; and "the library was too much used—men and boys read books when they ought to be at work." Still, the idea of a tax-supported public library was not to be denied. For a time, the Sheffield Friendly Union assumed guardianship, and the collection moved to Dewey Memorial Hall. In 1891 the voters changed course.

By 1901 the library had grown to such a degree that it had to be moved again—this time to Town Hall. Then it outgrew Town Hall, and with the assistance of two generous gifts, $10,000 from Alice B. Sage in 1920 and $25,000 from the estate of the Samuel Hopkins Bushnell in 1923, it moved to the lovely building that now houses the Police Station. (Sage had been an early supporter of a library for Sheffield. Bushnell, with a long-standing interest in education, gave his gift in memory of his brother, David.) Finally, in 1997, it relocated to its present location, the former Sheffield Center School, a striking, commodious, fully accessible structure close to the center of town.

The library today

Orville Dewey and those other early library pioneers could not have imagined the Bushnell-Sage Library of 2002. Interestingly, in 73 years, it has had only three directors: Willard French, from 1929-1973; John Campbell, from 1973-2001; and Nancy Hahn, who began in September 2001. Each has made valuable contributions to the library's vitality.

Continued on page 3

In This Issue

How to contribute 2
Holiday Events
Tree Lightings 4
Holiday Showcase; Festival of Trees; Wreath Sale, Thanksgiving 5
Community News
Sheffield Celebration Snapshots 7
Benefit to Honor Flinn 8
Churches & Services 9
School Musical; Food Program; Senior Center Calendar 10
S. Berkshire Family Network 11
Village Green
Hunting Seasons; Fire Dept. Log; Women's Self-Defense Course 12
Board of Selectmen 13
Issue Sponsor 14
Organizations & Businesses
Tree Planting Day; Cobble Events 15
Historical Society Programs 16
Kiwanis News 17
Real Estate Transfers; School District Calendar 18
Calendar Page & Donor Form 19

from the EDITORS

The Sheffield Times, past and future

In its first year, the *Sheffield Times* produced six regular issues and two special issues for town elections and Sheffield in Celebration which were mailed to all boxes in town. We started as a 12-page publication and now average 20-24 pages an issue.

Dozens of people work to produce each issue: editors, reporters, writers; a host of people who do notices and correspond with contributors, provide news items, do data-entry, research and fact checking, who proofread and distribute the paper and arrange for ads and all the hundreds of little things involved in puting out a paper.

For each issue that is roughly:

- 15+ hours for gathering and keying in news and events.
- 10+ hours for interviews and writing the features.
- 90+ hours for editing, doing the layout and copy and type proofing.
- 20+ hours to sell, design, and lay out the ads.
- 15+ hours for distributing the paper, writing donor thank yous, and other administrative tasks.

Most of that work is unpaid, volunteer labor by people who do it because they believe in a community paper and care about the *Sheffield Times*. The editors and layout person receive small honorariums to acknowledge all the hours they put in.

In terms of cost, regular issues run between $1,200 and $1,500 to produce.

Printing is the single biggest cost, $650 to $900 per issue depending on size and weight. The other $600-700 is operating insurance, postage, the honorariums, ads in the Shopper's Guide to let people know that the new issue is available, and supplies (disks, paper, cartridges, etc).

Advertising helps defray some of those costs. In our first year, ads brought in about $350 or $400 per issue. Contributions have covered the rest, so far, between the generous $11,000 response from the community to the initial appeal last year and $200 or so coming in each month in response to the coupon you find on the inside back cover of each issue.

With ads and monthly donations bringing in $550 to $600 per issue, each has a shortfall of $650 or $700. To date, that shortfall has been paid for out of the moneys donated in the initial appeal. To address the shortfall, going forward we are re-assessing ad rates. We are also hoping for a continued generous response to the appeal recently mailed out by the Sheffield Association. Thus far we have received $2,100. Thank to ll who have contributed (see p.6)! continue to renew their support.

We are also pleased to announce a new opportunity for businesses, organizations and individuals to support the *Sheffield Times*. With this issue, we are starting an "issue sponsor" program to help make up the short fall, and would like to thank Ward's Nursery for becoming the first such sponsor. Those interested in becoming issue sponsors should contact the Sheffield Times at one of the above addresses.

--Kathy Orlando & Andrea Scott, Editors

Sheffield TIMES

Community Newsletter for Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA.

Issue Editors: Kathy Orlando & Andrea Scott; **Layout:** Kathy Orlando; **Advertising Sales:** Rene Wood; **Distribution:** Ed Hotaling; **Staff:** Sandy & Dale Alden, Pauline Clarke, Rea Eastman, Gillian Hettinger, Art Kaufman, Barbara Kelly, Sally Kelly, Peter & Ellen Rowntree, Judy Schumer, Ann Shanks, Barbara West, John Wightman

Published by:
The Sheffield Association
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sheffieldtimes@hotmail.com

Photos ©2002 by Kathy Orlando., except, p. 15 Sheffield Historical Society

How to Support the *Sheffield Times* – Your Community Newsletter

Submit articles, news items, photos or illustrations
Spotted any interesting wildlife? Have a good idea for a story? Taken a great picture of an interesting Sheffield scene? Let us know!

Send suggestions and submissions to the P.O. Box or e-mail address below. News briefs can be one or two sentences, short articles between 150 and 450 words. Run suggestions for feature stories by the editors first.

Tell us about your events
Calendar items should be directed to the attention of the Calendar Editor and include a contact name and number in case there are questions.

Advertise in the Sheffield Times
We accept ads for services and products connected with Sheffield. Eighth-pages to half-pages available, more details on page 18. Contact Rene Wood at 229-2875 or renecwood@aol.com for rates or more information.

Support our advertisers
Most of our advertisers are local businesses. Tell them you read about them in the *Sheffield Times*!

Make a donation
The Sheffield Times is provided free at distribution sites throughout Sheffield and Ashley Falls. It's only partly supported by advertising. When you make a donation, you help make future issues possible and you get *Sheffield Times* in the mail. See the form on the inside back cover.

Sheffield Times
P.O. Box 1339
Sheffield, MA 01257
E-mail: sheffieldtimes@hotmail.com

JANUARY/FEBRUARY ISSUE
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 13

Continued from page 1

The book collection has grown enormously, both in quantity and quality, but in addition the library also boasts significant video and audio collections. Large-print books are increasingly popular. The inter-library loan enables Sheffield residents to secure books from other libraries in the region. Several patrons are currently using it to pursue advanced degrees. Three computers are available to patrons for e-mail or to access the Internet.

Hours have been expanded. It is currently open five days a week, Tuesday to Saturday; from 10am to 5pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, and from 10am to 8pm Tuesday and Friday.

The staff, in addition to Nancy Hahn, numbers six: Jack French, Martha Greene, Betty Drabik, Nancy Elliott, Colleen Barrett and Elizabeth C. Panhorst. Nine volunteers assist the staff in myriad ways on a regular basis: Inez Flinn, Kathleen Dennison, Caitlin Hotaling, Maddy Ohman, Catherine Hutchison, Melissa Joyce, John Wightman, and Molly and Jessica Goodchild. Many others assist from time to time.

Julie Hannum is Chair of the Board of Trustees, serving with Susan Young and Betty LeGeyt. A very active Friends of the Library, chaired for years by David Steindler, and more recently by Patrick Burns, seeks to provide additional funds for special projects, to help with programs, to increase its collection and to provide volunteer labor.

Library future

The highest priority for the library is good service, says Nancy Hahn, the current director. A special challenge currently is to prepare the collection so that it is accessible to the Central Western Massachusetts Regional System (C/WMARS), one of the largest automated library networks in the state. Membership will expand the capacity to place requests for materials in all formats. Delivery will be faster and eventually Sheffield patrons will have the ability to place requests from their home computers. Membership will also enhance reference and research capabilities. To make this all possible, however, new bar codes must be placed on the entire collection.

In addition, she is attending to collection development, working especially to enhance the library's holdings in such areas as the decorative arts, gardening, the environment and local authors, and processing new free material secured from the bookmobile warehouse in Pittsfield.

Problems? Limited parking spaces, but progress has been made to find 20, Nancy says. She also has concerns about recent cutbacks in state services—the bookmobile, for instance, will be visiting Sheffield only every eleven weeks. It used to come every six weeks or so.

Nancy comes to Sheffield from a specialized background serving an extensive military library service in Europe. When asked what she found attractive about a much smaller system, she responded immediately. Her greatest satisfaction, she asserts, is being able to know library patrons by name and interest and serving them personally. She and the rest of the staff have been known to set aside special books for individual readers, for instance, and hold them until their next visit. She also notes with pride that some of her most regular patrons are weekenders who, during the week, have access to libraries many times the size of the Bushnell-Sage Library. "They tell me repeatedly they prefer to come here."

Orville Dewey, writing in his autobiography, spoke of his growing up in Sheffield. "For books to read, the old Sheffield Library was my main resource. It consisted of about two hundred volumes, books of the good old fashion, well printed, well bound in calf, and well thumbed too. What a treasure was there for me! I thought the mine could never be exhausted. … most of these books I read, some of them over and over, often by torchlight, sitting on the floor … and to this library I owe more than to anything that helped me in my boyhood." The Bushnell-Sage Library, through the efforts of many, makes those same opportunities available today.

—John G. Wightman

Don't Get Caught Out In The Cold This Winter... and Save 25%!

High Lawn Farm wants to deliver to Sheffield residents.
Our goal is to have 200 new customers in your town.
Sign up through November and save **25%** on your first delivery.
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When you want the best for your family, you want High Lawn Farm. Call 243-0672 to sign up today!

TWO TREES FOR TWO GREENS

Sheffield will light two trees this holiday season, one on the Town Green between the Old Parish Church and the Stone Store and the other on the Green in Ashley Falls.

Ashley Falls lighting and carols

Ashley Falls will light its tree, a 70-foot Norway spruce, on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 5pm. Students from Undermountain Elementary School, under the direction of Anson Olds, will sing carols. Before and after the lighting, John and Lisa Jacquier's handsome draft horses will take kids on wagon rides around the center of the village. They'll be taking on passengers at the post office side of the village green starting at 4pm. Hot cocoa and homemade cookies will be served. This event is free and open to all. Donations are gratefully accepted and may be sent to the Ashley Falls Tree Fund, P.O. Box 6, Ashley Falls, MA 01222.

Sheffield lighting and carols

The Sheffield town tree lighting will be Sunday, Dec. 8, at 6:30pm. The Mt. Everett High School band will be on hand to play carols. After the lighting, everyone is invited to warm up in the Old Parish Church with more carols and refreshments. All are welcome to this holiday festival—while it's held in conjunction with area churches, it's non-denominational.

Assistance Programs for the Season

Eagle Santa Fund. Berkshire County families (except Lee) may apply. There are Income guidelines and age limit restrictions. Call the Family Center at 528-0721 for information.

Thanksgiving baskets and the Watson Fund. Community Services will register people. Please call 528-1947 for more information.

Fuel Assistance. Please contact Community Services at 528-1947 to find out if you qualify for this program.

People's Pantry. Serves Thursdays, 11:30am-1pm at St. Peter's Church in Gt. Barrington.

BUY LOCAL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!
Most of our advertisers are local businesses. Let them know you read about them in the *Sheffield Times*.

4th Annual

Festival of Trees

Sat, Nov. 30, 10 AM–3 PM

Early Buying: Fri. Nov. 29, 4 – 7 PM

Old Parish Church, Sheffield Town Green
Free Admission

- Silent Auction of Miniature Trees & Menorahs
- Pre-Priced Miniature Trees
- Boxwood Trees
- Ornaments & Wreaths
- Raffles: Holiday quilts & Gingerbread house.
- Hearty Country Lunch: $5.00

For more details, call 229-2694.
Sheffield Historical Society

HOLIDAY WREATHS

For your holiday decorating and gift giving.

Florist fresh 14" balsam wreaths with festive bow & golden holiday doves or rich poinsettias.

14" wreath: $32.50

Free delivery: Sheffield area, Sat/Sun. 12/1-12/15 or pick up at SHS.

Fundraiser for the 1834 Old Stone Store.

Place prepaid orders by calling:
Sheffield Historical Society: 229-2694 or
Rene Wood: 229-2875 (renecwood@aol.com)
or visit the Festival of Trees, 11/29 & 30,
Community Rooms, Old Parish Church

HOLIDAY OFFERINGS

Historical Society Holiday showcase. On Nov. 2 and 3, the Sheffield Historical Society kicks off the holidays in the newly restored 1834 Stone Store with a month-long display of decorated miniature trees, pre-priced trees, an exclusive limited edition Stone Store ornament and other holiday delights. Of special interest will be the holiday table settings designed by David Walker-Price, providing two views of how to celebrate the holidays, a holiday room set in an 18th Century replica doll house and two collections of holiday greeting cards. One collection, done by Walter Keith Frames, features large woodcut pictures of Sheffield scenes from over 50 years ago. The other set, paper cut mobiles from Seymour "Rob" Robbins, showcases years of creative talent.

The Stone Store is open Saturdays and Sundays in November, 10am to 2pm. You may also preview and buy chances on this year's Festival of Trees raffle items—two holiday quilts and a gingerbread house. Samples of the holiday wreaths the Society is selling will be displayed and prepaid orders will be taken.

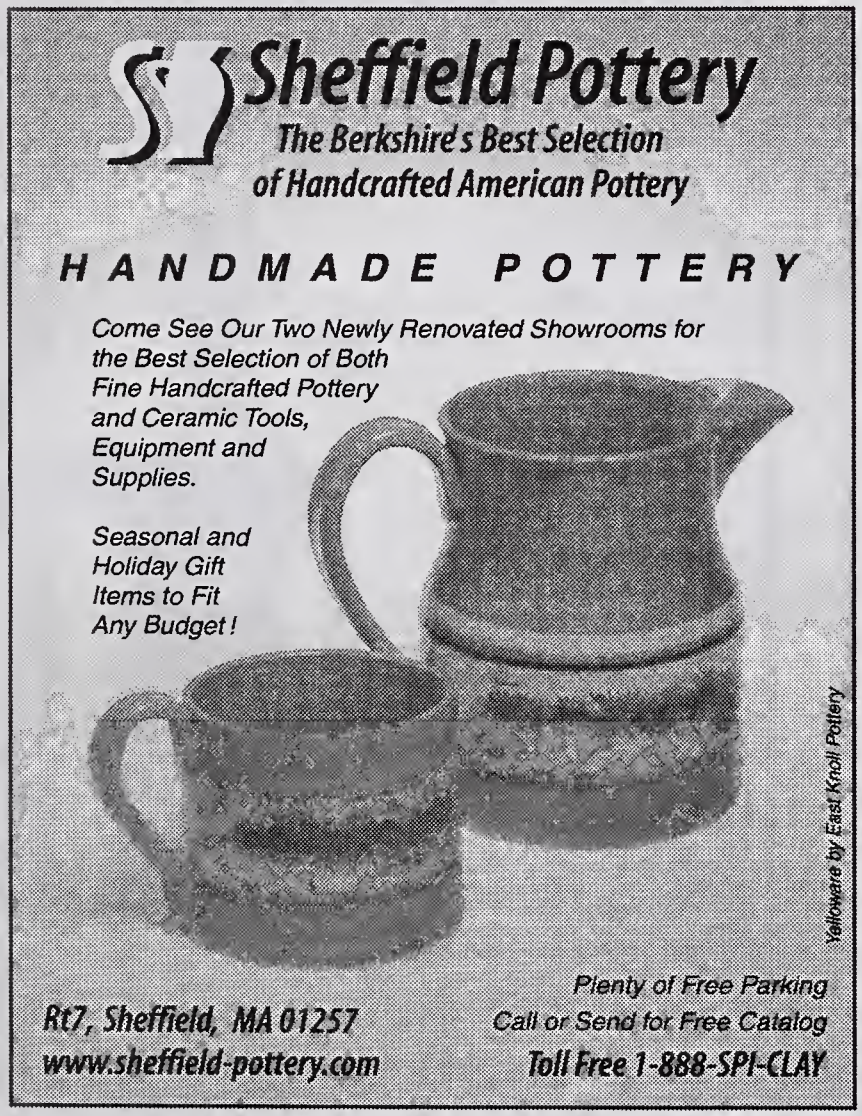
Festival of Trees. The 4th Annual Festival of Trees at Old Parish Church will be bigger and better than ever! The Festival has added early buying on Friday, Nov. 28 from 4 to 7pm. On Sat., Nov. 29 from 10am to 3pm, the festival will feature a silent auction of decorated miniature trees, pre-priced decorated trees, boxwood trees, limited edition ornaments, holiday wreaths and holiday raffles of two holiday quilts and a gingerbread house. A country lunch is available for $5.

Thanksgiving Service

The second Annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday, Nov. 24 at 3pm at St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church on Main St. in Great Barrington. Similar to last year, at least 15 leaders from various faith traditions will speak or offer prayers and special music, representing the local Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Bahai, Buddhist and other religious communities. Refreshments will be served. This event is sponsored by the Interfaith Committee of South Berkshire County. The offering will go to the People's Pantry, and attendees are encouraged to bring canned goods as well.

For information, call St. Peter's Parish Center at 528-2037 or Pastor Roger Imhoff at 528-9360.

Wreath Sale for Stone Store Fundraiser. The Sheffield Historical Society will be selling holiday wreaths as a fundraiser for the 1834 Stone Store. Fresh 14-inch balsam wreaths are custom decorated under the direction of Judy Schnurr. Each features a festive bow & golden holiday doves, and poinsettias. Free delivery is offered in Sheffield and Ashley Falls on Saturday or Sunday, December 1-15. Wreaths may also be picked up at the Society. Prepaid orders may be placed by calling the Society at 229-2694 or Rene Wood at 229-2875.



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REMEMBER TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 5TH!

THANK YOU!

To everyone who has donated since the last issue to help keep the *Sheffield Times* going!
To anyone we missed, we'll get you into the next issue.

Anonymous (2)
Richard & Pauline Banducci
Betty & Fred Bangs
Dana & Beth Bartholomew
Malcolm & Barbara Bayliss
Blanche & Bill Bennett
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by

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Barbara Fletcher - Jonathan Warner
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Anna Lisa Miller

1291 Ashley Falls Rd., (Route 7A), Ashley Falls, MA
413/229-3355

Farmers' Market of Sheffield

Fridays
4 to 7
center of town

Thank You!
Thank you Sheffield for a 2nd successful year!

❋ Your continued support of local growers and food producers helps strengthen community and preserve Sheffield's agricultural heritage.

❋ And farm-fresh foods simply taste better and are better for you!

See You Next Year!!

A GLANCE BACK AT SHEFFIELD IN CELEBRATION

Above, local favorites Tom Ingersoll and Anson Olds were joined on stage by Carol Ide at the 2nd Annual Sheffield Fair. The beautiful day encouraged people to linger and admire the fabulous collection of classic and muscle cars, talk with local craftspeople and cottage industries, and sample the wide variety of food, including traditional Kiwanis fare and a salad bar run by the Senior Center. The hayride and Glory B clowns were popular with fairgoers of all ages and those who planned ahead were able to take advantage of David LeBeau's appraisal services, or the farm tours by the Sheffield Land Trust.

The Celebrate Sheffield Farms Art Show, a collaborative effort between the Friends of the Library, Sheffield Art League, Sheffield Association, and Sheffield Land Trust was a tremendous success: 34 artists, Art League members and non-members, sold a total of 65 paintings. The show highlighted the importance of area farms and raised $1,700 toward the Land Trust's Farmland Protection Program. In addition, the show and its opening and "Meet the Artists" receptions brought hundreds of people to the library. Below, Julie Hannum and Ali Winston enjoy the food, art work and good company at the Artists reception.

Above, Bruce Howden and Holly Valente announce the winner of the Raffle at the 4th Annual Ashley Falls Fair on the Green. The Fair benefited the Ashley Falls Tree Lighting and the Village Improvement Society. Attendence was better than ever this year and fairgoers enjoyed a beautiful day, music and a wealth of entertainment, children's activities, vendors and food including the ever popular Kiwanis Wagon. Natalie Funk and Inez Flynn once again provided a wonderful walking tour of the village which included refreshments at the home of Nancy and Bob Rathbun.

SAVE THE DATE!

DON'T MISS IT!

THE TOWN MASTER PLAN'S 1ST

PUBLIC WORKSHOP & VISIONING SESSION

Saturday, November 23, 10am - Noon
Undermountain Elementary School Cafeteria

What to expect?

Preliminary results from the community survey which will shortly be mailed to all residents *(REMEMBER TO SEND YOURS IN!)*.

Profiles of Sheffield's demographics, land use and economic conditions & MORE.

Sharing YOUR thoughts on Sheffield's strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.

THE TOWN NEEDS TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!

BENEFIT TO HONOR INEZ FLINN

To celebrate the 80th birthday of Inez Flinn, her friends are throwing a birthday party/benefit November 2 at the Bushnell-Sage Memorial Library, from 4 to 7pm.

Inez Flinn, a long-time resident of Ashley Falls, was a telephone operator back before phones had numbers and then postmistress for Ashley Falls. She is also known for her volunteer work on behalf of community organizations that include the Library, the Sheffield Historical Society, Trinity Methodist Church, the Ashley Falls Village Improvement Association, The Trustees of Reservations, and the Sheffield Times.

Her friends want to honor Inez and her hard work over the years with a benefit for many of the causes she's supported. The party is open to all. Donations, in lieu of gifts, can be made to "The Friends of the Bushnell-Sage Library" and are tax-deductible. Inez will then direct donations to the organizations listed above.

RSVP to Norma Moulton at 229-2176. If you want to help with refreshments, contact Norma or Pam Bloodworth at 229-3530 (leave a message).

—Pam Bloodworth

PLEASE FILL OUT & RETURN YOUR COMMUNITY SURVEY!

Sheffield residents will shortly be receiving a community survey for the Town Master Plan in the mail.

Your input is essential for the process to be be representative of the whole community.

And attend the public input session November 23 for more information and to share your vision for Sheffield. (See page 7 for details.)

Inez Flinn, sharing her memories and knowledge of Sheffield history with local historian Jim Miller and a group of fair- goers during her very popular guided walking tour of Ashley Falls. The tour was part of this year's Ashley Falls Fair on the Green; just one of the many community events for which she volunteers.

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Our office on Route 7, in the part of Sheffield known as "The Plain," is a lovely two-and-a-half-story Early Greek Revival with five bay front and eyebrow windows set into a deep cornice under a hip roof. Heavy corner pilasters and a south funeral door are distinct features of this building which was built as a residence in ca. 1825 by Return E. Jones.

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Churches & Services

ASHLEY FALLS

Grace Bible (non-denominational)
Clayton Road (413) 229-8560; parsonage (860) 824-7442. Sunday: 9:30am Sunday School (ages 3-adult); 10:30am Worship Service, nursery care provided. Rev. Edward Eastman, Pastor

Trinity Methodist (United Methodist)
1156 Ashley Falls Road (413) 229-2712. Sunday: 10am Service. Pastor Betty LeGeyt

SHEFFIELD

Christ Church (Episcopal)
180 Main Street (413) 229-8811 Sunday: 8am & 10am Holy Eucharist; 10am Sunday School & childcare; Thursday: 10am Holy Eucharist & Healing. Rev. Susan H. Crampton

Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
Rte 7 & Kellogg Road (413) 229-8649. The public is welcome.

Faith Baptist
640 North Main Street (413) 229-0400 Sunday: 10am Sunday School; 11am Worship Service; 6pm Bible Study; Thursday: 7pm Prayer Meeting. Rev. H. Shelton Cole

Old Parish (United Church of Christ)
125 Main Street (413) 229-8173 Sunday: 10am Worship. Rev. Art Kaufman, Pastor

Our Lady of the Valley (Catholic)
Maple Avenue (413) 229-3028
Saturday: 5:30pm Mass; Sunday: Sheffield 7:30am, 9am Masses; Mill River 10:30 Mass. Rev. John S. Lis

Sheffield Chapel (non-denominational)
1970 N. Main Street (413) 528-0233
www.sheffieldchapel.org Sunday: 8am & 9:30am Morning Worship; Pastor Chet Howes

GREAT BARRINGTON

Congregation Ahavath Shalom (reconstructionist)
North Street (413) 528-4197 Friday, 8pm & Saturday, 10am. Services are not held every week. Schedules are updated weekly on the answering machine, including special services.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire
270 State Road (413) 528-6378 Friday: 7:30pm Shabbat Service; Saturday: 10am Shabbat service & Torah study. Rabbi Deborah Zecher, As't Rabbi Andrew Klein

Trinity Lutheran
St. James 352 Main Street (413) 528-1330. Sunday: 9:30am Sunday Worship. Rev. George E. Mayer

Unitarian Universalist Meeting of South Berkshire
St. James, 352 Main Street church (413) 528-4850; home (413) 528-3106. Sunday: 5pm. Rev. Kathy Duhon

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School to Perform "We The People"

Grades 3-6 students at Undermountain Elementary School and the New Marlborough Central School proudly present the musical "We The People." Based on the constitution, this patriotic musical should have the audience on its feet.

Directed by Bob Law and Charley Coughlin and choreographed by Alana Hollingsworth, the cast of students will exceed 150.

Shows are Friday and Saturday, December 6 and 7 at 7pm and on Sunday December 8 at 2pm. Tickets are $8 for general admission and $6 for seniors and students.

For information or to reserve tickets, call the Performing Arts Department office at 413-229-8252.

Food Program

Every Monday morning volunteers from our community gather at Old Parish Church to distribute food to individuals and families who, for a variety of reasons, just can't "do it all." Food is donated from area churches and businesses (Big Y, Price Chopper, etc.) and bought from donated funds.

If you, or someone you know, is in need of food assistance, call the church office (229-8173) or stop in on Mondays from 9:30-10:30.

Food Funds Sought

Schools, churches and individuals have been wonderfully generous in providing non-perishables to the Sheffield Food Program. With the Holidays approaching, the Program needs additional funds to make the once-a-week protein order of meat, tuna and peanut butter. Contributions can be sent to the Food Assistance Program c/o Old Parish Church, P.O. Box 387, Sheffield, MA 01257.

Many thanks and happy holidays from all the volunteers.

Senior Center Calendar

See also regular listings on p. 19

November

4: Flu Clinic, 9am-1pm. Note: Medicare card required. $15 fee for anyone *without* Medicare card.

11: Veteran's Day - Center is closed

13: Trip to see Shangri-La Chinese Acrobats

14: Cholesterol Testings, Maureen Anderson, 9am-12pm. Please call for appointment.

20: Footcare: Nurse Kelley ($24). Please call for appointment.

28: Thanksgiving - Center is closed.

29: Day after Thanksgiving - Center is closed. (Meals on Wheels *will* be delivered.)

December

18: COA - sponsored Christmas Luncheon, 12 noon. Bring an unwrapped child's gift.

23-27: Christmas week - Center is closed.

January

1: New Year's Day - Center is closed.

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SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE FAMILY NETWORK

All events are held at the Family Center, 940 South Main Street, Great Barrington unless otherwise stated. Families are requested to register for all events and playgroups. Call 528-0721 to register or for free newsletter. Family Center closed November 27 & 28.

Regular Events

Playgroups through 12/20, 9:30 – 11:30am. Adults and child have a chance to socialize with others their age. Lightly structured: free play, nutritious snack, age appropriate activity, and circle time. A care giver must be with each child. November playgroups will include story times. Each child may bring a book home.

Kids Clubs : The Family Network parents have worked with area churches and social services to initiate two Kid's Clubs, an occasional care drop off time two days a week for a reasonable fee. These programs help to answer a need for short time child care for parents who have apointments or need to shop without children.

Monday - Friday Family Center Drop in Times: use the play room, outside play yard, clothing exchange & lending library,, 2- 4pm

Mondays. Play group, Calvary Christian Church, Gt. Barrington & Family Center (12-24 mos)

Mondays & Fridays. Parent-infant group, for families with children newborn-2 years to use the play room & get to know eachother. 12:30 to 2pm. **11/18**, Visit by Deb-orah Brantner Jones, Maternal Child Health Nurse

Tuesdays.. Playgroup, Christ Church, lower level, Sheffield. Park in the back lot and enter through the back door.;

Kid's Club, St. James Church, Gt. Barrington, Call Marta 528-9622. 9am-noon

Tuesdays & Thursdays. Play and Learn Playgroup for 3 & 4 year olds.

Wednesdays. Playgroup. 18 mos – 4yrs

Thursdays. Playgroup, Grace Bible Church, Ashley Falls;

Kid's Club, Old Parish Church, Sheffield, Call Sally 229-0392. 9am-noon

Fridays. Playgroup, Guthrie Center, Gt. Barrington.

Wednesdays. Story time, New Marlborough Town Library, Mill River. 11/20 will be the last session for the year. Please call library at 229-6668 to register. 10–11:30am

Special Events

11/4 Western Region Department of Education Family Network Meeting. light lunch provided. 9am-12 noon.

11/8 LaLeche League Toddler Group. Call Kim Kaufman, 528-2763. 11am-12 noon.

11/5 3 & 4 year old Drop-In. 9:30am-12 noon.

11/5, 19 Moms with More than One Child Group Meeting. Child care available. Gail Puntin 528-1470 to register. 10:30-12 noon

11/6, 13, 20 – Wednesdays, Story time at New Marlborough Town Library, Mill River. November 20 will be the last session for the year. Call 229-6668 to register. 10 – 1:30am

11/6, 20, 27 Parent Education Group on How To Talk So Kids Will Listen, How To Listen So Kids Will Talk. Child care provided with a light supper. Please call to register. 5:30–7:30pm

11/7 – Thursday, Play & Learn/Gym and Play Movement Class for 3 & 4 year olds at Berkshire South. Call to register. 10:30-11:30am

11/7, 14, 21 – Thursdays, ongoing session. September 12 thru December 5, Mental Illness Education presented by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI). A Family-to-Family 12 week education course on all aspects of mental illness. Designed for family members. 7 – 9 pm *To register: Roberta or Ron (413)269-4928; or Berkshire County NAMI at (413)443-1666*

11/12, 26 – Tuesdays, Play and Learn/ Creative Movement for 3 & 4 year olds. Please call to register. 10:30am–12 noon

11/12 Tuesday, Playgroup Leader Meeting. Stress reduction with Clare Stomper, RN. Berkshire South Conference Room. Dinner provided. 6 – 8 pm

11/13 Wednesday, Single Parents Play Group. 5 – 7 pm

11/14, 21 Thursdays, 3 and 4 year old Drop-In. 9:30 – 11:30 am

11/14 – Thursday, Parent Book Discussion Group on Your Two Year Old. Child care provided. Please call to register. 3-4:30 pm

11/14, 21 Thursdays, Basket Making led by Wendy Jensen. Make a field basket. $40 for supplies. Please call to register and get directions. 7-9 pm

11/16 Saturday, Toddler Play Group. Turkey activities. 9:30 – 11:30 am

11/18 Monday, How Media Affects Children, a workshop led by Christine Zelehoski for parents and those who work with young children. Child care provided. 6 pm

11/19 Tuesday, Story time and activity for 3 and 4 year olds led by Joyce Weeks. Freeplay at 10:30 and story at 11 am

11/19 Thanksgiving Thank You Tea. 3-5pm

11/19 Stepfamilies group meeting. Speaker Josie Jansen. Russell House, 54 Castle St, 7pm.

11/20 Mother-Baby Exercise and Baby Message with Vicky Guy, LPTA, 1pm.

11/22 Friday, Advisory Committee Meeting. Child care provided. 11 am

11/23 Saturday, Father-Child Play Group. Turkey activities. 10 – 12 noon

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TOWN CLERK

Fall Hunting Season

Written permission is required to hunt on someone else's property in Sheffield. Special Permits are needed for antlerless deer.

Partial Fall Hunting Season Guide

Pheasant: 10/19-11/30
Turkey: 10/28-11/2
Deer (archery): 10/14-11/23
Deer (primitive firearms): 12/16-12/31
Deer (shotgun): 12/2-12/14

All hunting seasons except waterfowl are closed during deer shotgun season. Details and seasons for other species are listed in the 2002 *MassWildlife Abstracts* available from the Town Clerk. The *Abstracts* also list bag limits and rules specific to each species and season and general hunting information and regulations. Sheffield is in deer Zone 3.

Hours: Hunting hours are generally from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. There are some exceptions, which are noted in the *Abstracts*. Hunting is not permitted on Sundays.

Safety: During deer shotgun season, all hunters must wear "a minimum of 500 square inches of 'hunter orange' on their head, chest and back." Deer hunters must wear the same during muzzleloader season as well.

All non-hunters engaged in outdoor recreational activities are advised to follow the same guidelines. All hunting injuries must be reported to state or local police.

Hunting is not permitted within 500 feet of any dwelling or building, except as authorized by the owner or occupant, nor within 150 feet of any state or hard-surfaced highway. No firearm or arrow may be discharged on or across such highways.

For more information call the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife's Western Wildlife District Offices at (413) 447-9789 or visit their web site at www.masswildlife.org.

FIRE DEPARTMENT LOG *-John Ullrich, Chief*

8/1 - Propane leak, Alarm Time: 1:40pm, In Service: 4:35pm
8/9 - Alarm - S. Undermountain Rd., Alarm Time: 10:35pm; In Service: 11:20pm
8/13 - Car Fire, Alarm Time: 11:45am; In Service: 12:04pm
8/16 - Alarm - Ashley Falls Rd., Alarm Time: 10:00am; In Service: 10:30am
8/16 - Brush Fire, Alarm Time: 5:00pm; In Service: 6:05pm
8/24 - Electrical Fire, Alarm Time: 10:45am; In Service: 11:12am
8/26 - Grass Fire, Alarm Time: 2:20pm; In Service: 3:00pm
9/1 - Car Accident, Alarm Time: 3:55pm; In Service: 4:50pm
9/3 - Mutual Aid - GBFD, Alarm Time: 3:53am; In Service: 4:58am
9/4 - Power lines down & burning, Alarm Time: 2:55am; In Service: 3:55am
9/10 - Alarm at Sheffield Plastics, Alarm Time: 2:15am; In Service: 2:27am
9/18 - Alarm at SBRSD, Alarm Time: 8:18am; In Service: 8:45am
9/23 - Alarm at SBRSD, Alarm Time: 1:20pm; In Service: 1:32pm
9/26 - Alarm at Sheffield Plastics, Alarm Time: 11:43pm; In Service: 12:04pm

Women's Self Defense Course Offered

The Sheffield Police Department has brought back its RAD (Rape Agression Defense) course, of realistic, self-defense tactics and techniques.

It is a comprehensive course for women that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance, while progressing on to the basics of hands on defense training.

The classes start November 5 and are Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-8:30pm for two weeks with the final class on Saturday November 16th from 10am-12pm. Classes are held at Mt Everett High School and instruction is provided by the Sheffield Police Department. While pre-registation is suggested, it is not required.

For information or to register call the Police Department at 229-8522 or Linda at Mt. Everett at 229-8734. There is no charge for the course.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN:
EXCERPTS FROM MEETING MINUTES

Televised Board of Selectmen's meetings can also be seen Sundays at 11:30am on CTSB Cable Chanel 11. Not all meetings are televised.

8/5—In connection with the proposal that the remaining dirt road section of Shunpike Road be oiled and stoned, Police Chief James McGarry explained that finishing the road would be better from a public safety standpoint even though drivers tend to speed more on finished roads. He said that speed limit signs could be posted on finished roads but not on dirt roads and that cars can stop more quickly on finished roads. The Board deferred action. Several bids received for the summer 2002 repaving program were discussed.

The Board approved a one-day liquor permit for a Fairview Hospital charity fundraiser on Aug. 24 at the Berkshire School.

The Board approved sending a letter to an individual who had disregarded the instructions of the Transfer Station attendant warning that that person's disposal rights might be revoked.

Richard Kirchner mentioned a problem with parking for the Farmers' Market on Fridays. Several merchants said their customers were having difficulty parking.

8/12—The Board approved the award to Petricca Construction of the repaving contract for the summer 2002 repaving program for $253,219.

Building Inspector Brent Getchell was present to discuss complaints and concerns concerning Century Acquisitions' mining activities. Apparently because of mining below the water table, standing water is making a five- to six-acre pond that was not present before. Also, structures may have been built or rebuilt without building permits or inspections, and there may be safety and Board of Health issues. It was suggested that videos and/or photos be taken of these activities and conditions, that a working meeting be held with Century and that the Board of Health be consulted. Getchell was authorized to consult with legal counsel.

8/26—The main item of business was a public hearing for a Community Block Planning Grant for funds for the new Senior Center. Peter Lafayette of the Berkshire Department of Housing and Community Development was present to explain the process and answer questions. The grant can be for as much as $75,000. The steps to be taken include the hiring of an architect, the selection of a site with adequate utilities, and making a cost survey. Rae Eastman, the Director of the Senior Center, stated that the Center currently pays rent of $6,000 a year. There would be no rent payable if the Center is built on Town land next to the Town Hall, where the Fuller Building is now located, a place close to the Post Office, stores and Town Hall. The American Legion hall and the Library were considered as alternative locations but rejected for various reasons. The Boar approved applying for a grant for the maximum amount of $75,000.

The Board considered proposals to remove a five-acre lot from Chapter 61A, to authorize Town Administrator Bob Weitz to make temporary employee appointments for the Transfer Station for 30-day trial periods and to grant three applications for the abatement of solid waste user fees, all of which were approved.

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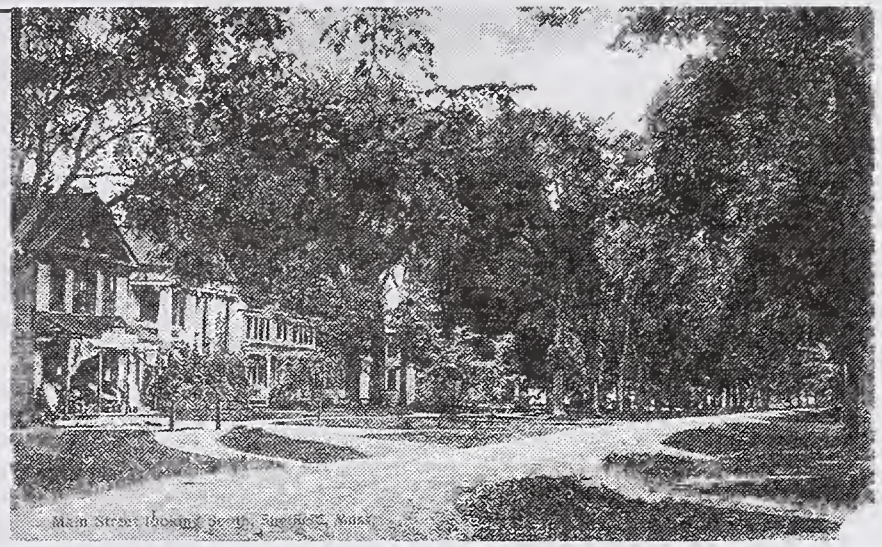
--The elves at wards

Volunteers Wanted for Community Tree Planting Day

Join in the Community Tree Planting Day, Saturday November 9, 9:30am-4pm. The Sheffield Tree Project has received a grant to plant native trees along public roads throughout Sheffield -- now we need volunteers to help get them in the ground and care for them!

Come join in the fun. Enjoy a day of working outside, good company, learning about trees, and giving back to our community. Spend a couple of hours or the whole day. The planting will be supervised by a certified arborist, so no experience is needed.

For more information please contact Tom Ingersoll at (413) 822-1602 or e-mail stp@ingernet.com.



Welcoming tree-lined streets were typical of Sheffield in the early 1900s, as seen in this view of Main Street. Throughout Sheffield's history trees have been planted for their beauty, shade and to leave a lasting legacy for the future. The current planting will be in areas outside the Town Green due to pending renovations.

BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE FALL PROGRAMS

Meet at the Cobble, Wheatogue Road, Ashley Falls, unless otherwise specified. Information at 229-8600.

Night Hike – Owl Prowl
An adventure into the forest on a fall evening to listen to the sounds of the night. Saturday, November 2, 7-9 pm. Members: adults $3, child – FREE. Non-members: adult $6, child (6-16) $2.

Waterfowl Identification Workshop
A short slide presentation to help with identifying species, then a field trip to local lakes and ponds to look for ducks. Some carpooling will be necessary. Dress warmly. Saturday, November 9, 9am–2pm. Members: adults $5, child –FREE. Non-members: adults $10, child (6-16) $2. Pre-registration required.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAMS

Fall Fun with Harvest Crafts. The Society and the Bushnell-Sage Library are jointly offering these hands-on activities, taking place at both sites. The event will include demonstrations. The Society will also be operating its smokehouse. Saturday, November 2, 10am.

A Conversation of WWII Remembrances. The Society's monthly meeting will be first-person accounts of World War II. Milton Barnum and other veterans will present "A Conversation of WWII Remembrances," which will cover experiences before, during, and after the war. Moderator Dennis Sears will encourage questions from the audience. Friday, November 8, 7:30pm, Old Parish Community Rooms.

Teddy Bear Exhibit. Society member's individual collections will be brought together to provide a whimsical look at the holidays. Exhibit opens November 27 at the Dan Raymond House. Special hours: Wednesday, November 27, December 4, and December 11, 11am-4pm

Tours & Appointments

Tours of the Dan Raymond House are available by appointment year-round. The Mark Dewey Research Center is open Monday and Friday from 1:30 to 4 p.m. and by appointment.

Annual Holiday Open House. See the Dan Raymond House decorated for the season, enjoy the Teddy Bear exhibition, and more. Sunday, December 8, 2-4 pm

Holiday Readings. The Society's monthly meeting will be Holiday Readings by Richard Nunley He will present a discussion of the holidays (Thanksgiving vs. Christmas) and readings from both. Emphasis will be on American and especially Berkshire County authors. on Friday, December 13 at 7:30pm at the Old Parish Church's Community Rooms.

See page 5 for Holiday Decorations Exhibit, 4th Annual Festival of Trees & Wreath Sale.

For further information on Society programs, contact the Sheffield Historical Society, 159-161 Main Street, P.O. Box 747, Sheffield, MA 01257, (413) 229-2694 or email us at shs@sheffieldhistory.org.

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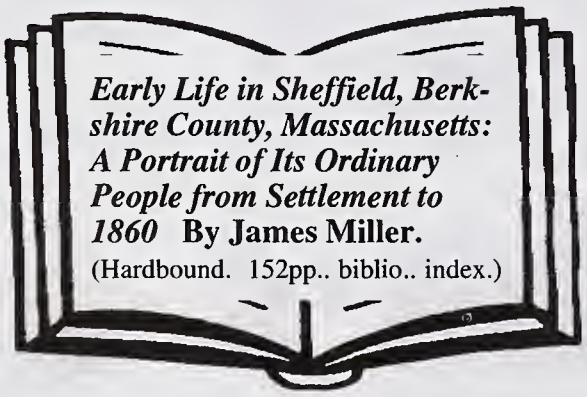

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KIWANIS NEWS

Installation/Awards Gala

The gala held at the Egremont Country Club, officially ended the Kiwanis year. Our first annual Citizen of the Year award went to Richard J. Kirchner for his outstanding community service. Jim Collingwood Jr. won the prestigious Kiwanian of the Year award, passing the Club Charter to new president, David A. Smith, Jr.

Activity is lighter for club members during the winter months. The Bowling Tournament at Cove Lanes in Gt. Barrington occupies the first three Saturdays and Sundays in November. We also provide turkeys, vegetables, and cash to the local Food Pantries in Sheffield and Gt. Barrington for the holidays. Our "Adopt-a-Family" program at Christmas time has been a huge success the past few years.

Art Auction Planned

Our first Art Auction will be at the Eisner Camp on Sunday, December 8. The preview and silent auction run from 1:30-3pm immediately followed by the actual auction. Tickets are $10 in advance; $15 at the door. Tickets are available from Club members and at Sears, the Pittsfield Coop Bank, Domaney's in Gt. Barrington and at Silk's Variety in Sheffield.

Citizen of the Year Award

The Kiwanis Club has named Richard J. Kirchner the recipient of its first annual Citizen of the Year Award. This honor recognizes individuals who work with unselfish diligence to make an impact on their communities.

The award honors a citizen who has demonstrated leadership and strength of character in official, professional, and volunteer service, making his town and community a better place to live.

A Citizen of the Year plaque was presented to Mr. Kirchner by outgoing Kiwanis President Jim Collingwood Jr. at the club's annual Installation Gala at the Egremont Country Club on October 5. State Senator Andrea F. Nuciforo Jr. and Kevin Sherman, subbing for State Representative Christopher Hodgkins, read their respective proclamations.

Citizens of the year have $1,000 Kiwanis Scholarship named for them the following year, and awards it to a selected student at the Kiwanis Banquet in June.

Any resident of the seven towns (Sheffield, Gt. Barrington, New Marlboro, Alford, Egremont, Monterey, Mt. Washington, and their villages) is eligible for this honor. Nominations are collected in the spring, evaluated by the Kiwanis Club's selection committee, reduced to three final candidates, and then voted on by the Kiwanis membership. Kiwanis Club members may not be considered.

--Richard L. Goodwin
Treasurer, Sheffield Kiwanis

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Real-estate transfers

August

30 Deborah M. Duncan to Steepleview Developments, LLC. Property at Berkshire Lake Estates, $4,000.

30 John Skehan to Steepleview Developments, LLC, property at Berkshire Lake Estates, $4,000.

30 Jantje van Houwelingen to Harold M. & Gretchen E. Hastings, property at 215 Cross Road, $289,000.

September

4 Virginia J. Drury to Donald & Judith Reinauer, property at 742 Barnum Street, $485,000.

5 Margaret G. Beverly to Mark E. Bachetti, property at Ashley Falls Road, Corrective Deed.

6 David & Laurie M. Teta to David M. & Edith D. Tully, property at 881 South Undermountain Road, $440,000.

9 Betty Mae Dunk to Donna L. Kelly, Arthur Stavisky & Robin Markey, property at 356 Miller Avenue, Transfer.

10 Lucille P. McGarry to Jordan & Laura Green, property at 86 Main Street, $289,000.

17 Glenn R. DeVoti to Glenn R. & Catherine R. DeVoti, property at 262 Foley Road, Transfer.

25 John T. & Dawn M. O'Neil to David F. & Mary W. Kaufholz, property at Linden Terrace, $80,000.

26 Edward J. & Dorothy Ostrander Sr., to Edward J. Ostrander Jr., property at 176 East Road, Transfer.

26 Holly G. Coon to Maureen T. Snyder, property at 71 Park Lane, $156,000.

ADVERTISERS WELCOME!

The *Sheffield Times* accepts advertising at its discretion:

- From Sheffield businesses & residents: want ads; for sale; services offered (i.e. landscaping, carpentry, electrical, forestry, typing, babysitting, sewing etc.); business ads, etc.
- From outside of Sheffield: services, etc., that benefit Sheffield residents.
- No editorial or political ads.

For more information or to place an ad, contact Rene Wood at 229-2875 or renecwood@aol.com.

January/February Issue Deadline: December 13.

So. Berkshire Regional School District Calendar

TAC-PAC = Thomas A. Consolati Performing Arts Center

November

1 Berkshire Children's Chorus Dance, H.S. Caf, 7-9pm
6 Professional Development Day, ½ Day
7 School Committee Meeting, Library, 7pm
8 SBYA Dance, H.S. Caf., 7-9pm
14 Fall Festival of Shakespeare, "Hamlet," TAC-PAC, 7:30pm
15 Fall Festival of Shakespeare, "Hamlet" TAC-PAC, 7:pm
15 Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by Berkshire Children's Chorus, 5-7pm
21 School Committee Meeting, Library 7pm
24 Albany Berkshire Ballet, *The Nutcracker*, TAC-PAC, 1:30 & 4:30pm

December

5 School Committee Meeting, Library, 7pm
6 Grades 3-6 Musical, "We The People,"TAC-PAC, 7pm
7 Grades 3-6 Musical, "We The People," TAC-PAC, 7pm
7 Cookie Walk & Craft Fair, 9am-3pm
8 Grades 3-6 Musical, "We The People," TAC-PAC, 2pm
10 Grades 5 & 6 Choral & Band Concert, 7pm
12 Grades 7-12 Band Concert, 7pm
13 Grades 7 & 8 Dance, 7-9pm
17 Grades 7-12 Choral Concert, 7pm
19 School Committee Meeting, Library, 7pm
20 SBYA Dance, 7-9pm
31 Berkshire Bach Society, *All Six Brandenburg Concerti*, TAC-PAC, 6pm

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calendar PAGE

Page number given after an event if it's written up in this issue.
BCF= Berkshire Choral Festival at Berkshire School

November

2 & 3 Historical Society Showcase (p5)
2 Fall Fun with Harvest Crafts, Dan Raymond House and Library, 10am (p16)
2 Inez Flinn Benefit, Library, 4-7pm, (p8)
5 ELECTION DAY – DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!
5 Women's self-defense course, Mt. Everett, 6pm (p12)
7 Women's self-defense course, Mt. Everett, 6pm (p12)
8 "World War II Rememberances", Old Parish Church, 7:30pm (p16)
9 Community Tree Planting, 9:30am-4pm (p15)
11 VETERANS DAY
12 Women's self-defense course, Mt. Everett, 6pm (p12)
14 Women's self-defense course, Mt. Everett, 6pm (p12)
16 Women's self-defense course, Mt. Everett, 10am (p12)
23 MASTER PLAN PUBLIC INPUT/VISIONING workshop, Elementary School cafeteria, 10am-noon.
24 Community Thanksgiving Service, St. Peter's Church, 3pm (p5)
27 Teddy Bear Exhibit Opens, Dan Raymond House, 11am-4pm (p16)
28 THANKSGIVING
29 HANUKKAH (starts at sundown)
30 Festival of Trees, Old Parish Church, 10am-3pm (p4)

December

7 Ashley Falls Tree Lighting, on the Green, 5pm (p 4)
8 Kiwanis Art Auction, Camp Eisner, 1:30 (p17)
8 Holiday Open House, Dan Raymond House, 2-4pm (p16)
8 Sheffield Tree Lighting, on the Green, 6:30pm (p4)
13 *SHEFFIELD TIMES* SUBMISSION DEADLINE, (p2)
13 Holiday Readings, Old Parish Church, 7:30pm (16)
25 CHRISTMAS DAY

January

1 NEW YEARS DAY

SEE ALSO:
Churches & Services, p.9 ◆ S. Berkshire Family Network, p.11 ◆ Senior Center p. 10 ◆ Bartholomew's Cobble, p.15 ◆ School District Calendar, p. 18.

ONGOING CALENDAR ITEMS

(meetings or events that occur on a less than weekly basis are noted by reference – i.e. 1st, 3rd indicates meetings the first and third times that day occurs in the month. * indicates appointment needed.)

Mondays:
Food Assistance Program, Old Parish Church, 9-10:30am (p.10)
Board of Selectmen, Town Hall, 7pm, 1st, 3rd, 4th
Board of Health, Town Hall, 7pm, 2nd

Tuesdays:
Kid's Club, Old Parish Church, 9am-12pm
Council on Aging, Dewey Hall, 9am, 3rd
Physical Fitness Class, Dewey Hall/Senior Center, 9:00am
Building Inspector, Town Hall, 6pm – 8:30pm
Ashley Falls Historic District Commission, Town Hall, 6:30pm, 2nd
Planning Board, Town Hall, 7pm, 1st, 3rd
Industrial Development Commission, Town Hall, 7:30pm, last

Wednesdays:
Bereavement Group, Old Parish Church, 10am-11am
* Memory Testing, Dewey Hall/Senior Center, 9am, 1st

Thursdays:
Building Inspector, Town Hall, 7am – 1pm
*Blood Pressure Clinic, Dewey Hall/Senior Center, 9am-12pm, 2nd (no clinic in November)
Physical Fitness Class, Dewey Hall/Senior Center, 9:00am
Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 7pm, 2nd, 4th

Fridays:
Noon Movies, Dewey Hall/Senior Center, 12pm

Saturdays:
Contra Dancing, Sheffield Grange, Rte 7, 8:30pm, 4th (p.5)

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